

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2 and 4 remain pending in the application. Claim 3 has been cancelled.

The Abstract was objected to as noted in the Office Action. In response, a new Abstract is being submitted and the objection should be withdrawn.

The specification has been amended to include continuing data.

Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Miki et al. (U.S. Patent 5,396,131). In response, claim 3 has been incorporated into claim 1 and claim 1 is believed to be patentable over Miki et al. for the reasons discussed below.

The Examiner makes an erroneous statement when he considers, in paragraph 4, that this feature (in previous claim 3 and now in amended claim 1) is disclosed in Miki. Miki does not disclose a servoloop circuit for supplying a variable reference voltage to the resistor network, the variable voltage being such that the middle point of the resistor network is aligned on the common mod voltage of the differential input voltage to be converted. Rather, Miki discloses a constant reference voltage (VR1a and VR1b).

Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miki et al. in view of Kouno et al. (U.S. Patent 5,539,406). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Kouno et al. does not overcome the deficiencies discussed above with respect to Miki et al. Claim 4 recites additional limitations and should therefore be patentable for the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1 as well as on its own merits. Accordingly, the obviousness rejection should be withdrawn.

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application should be in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including

extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 07-1337 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

LOWE HAUPTMAN HAM & BERNER, LLP



Kenneth M. Berner
Registration No. 37,093

1700 Diagonal Road, Suite 300
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
(703) 684-1111
(703) 518-5499 Facsimile
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KMB/jad